

INSIDE

Basketball season
underway at Elba
High School



"Serving Elba and Coffee County
for more than 125 Years!"
Est. 1897

INSIDE

Elba's Class of
'66 meets for
Breakfast



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 30 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 14, 2023 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

CCSO Deputies make drug possession arrests

Deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Office made several drug possession arrests over the past week.

According to Coffee County Jail records, Christian Freeman, age 34, of Enterprise, Ala., was arrested Tuesday, Dec. 5, and charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond], possession of marijuana - 2nd degree [\$2,500 bond], and obstructing justice using a false identity [\$5,000 bond]. He was booked into the jail at 9:33 p.m. that evening.

As of press time this week, jail records showed that Freeman remained incarcerated.

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, Coffee County deputies made two separate drug-related arrests.

Jail records show Angela Cooper, age 33, of Enterprise, was arrested and booked into the county jail at 3:36 p.m. for possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond] and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$1,500 bond]. Cooper was released on bond Monday afternoon, Dec. 11th.

Also, on Wednesday, Dec. 6, deputies arrested Jodie Johnson, age 44, of Elba, Ala., and he was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond]. He was booked into the county jail at 3:47 p.m. last Wednesday.

As of press time this week, jail records showed that Johnson remained in the county jail.



Freeman



Flowers

On Friday, Dec. 8, David Flowers, age 47, of Glenwood, Ala., was arrested by Coffee County deputies. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond] and was booked into the jail at 4:45 p.m. that day. Just under 24-hours later, jail records show that Flowers was released on bond Saturday, Dec. 9, at 3:45 p.m.

Tuesday morning, Dec. 12, Coffee County deputies arrested Roy Stanford, age 36, of New Brockton, Ala. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$15,000 bond], possession of marijuana - 2nd degree [\$6,000 bond], and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$3,000 bond].

Stanford remained in the county jail as of press time this week.



Stanford

Kinston woman arrested on sexual abuse charges

According to Coffee County Jail records, a Kinston, Ala., woman was arrested last week on sexual abuse charges.

Records show Summer Dietsche, age 40, of Kinston was arrested Friday, Dec. 8, by officers with the Kinston Police Department on two counts of sexual abuse of a child under the age of 12. Her bond was set at \$30,000 each for the two charges. She remained in the county jail as of press time.



Dietsche

Kinston Cheerleaders bring home two State Champ awards from competition



The Kinston Bulldogs Cheerleading Squad competed Monday, Dec. 11, in the state cheer championships held in Birmingham, Ala., and the Class 1A squad brought home two state championships. The squad won Game Day State Champions and Traditional State Champions in their division. The cheerleaders and coaches are pictured above with their two championship trophies. They are: (front row, 1 to r) seniors Ella Cooper - Co-Captain; Baylee Smith - Captain, and Brianna Hall; (middle row, 1 to r) Coach Connie Hawthorne, Jorja Beth Wilson, Laken White, Molly Kate Weeks, Lexi Bradley, and Coach Presley Bracke; and (back row, 1 to r) Aubrey Tew, Paisley Clark, Madisyn Andress, Emma Brown, Bella Lashley, and Coach Erika Whigham.

"Journey to The Savior" presented by Zion Chapel Baptist Church



Hundreds visited the Zion Chapel Baptist Church presentation of "Journey to The Savior" - a drive-through living Nativity, which was held last Friday night, Dec. 8, and Saturday night, Dec. 9, from 6-8 p.m. each night. Ten scenes were used to tell the story of the birth of Jesus. There was no charge to visit this presentation. Sam Self, pastor of Basin Baptist Church of Elba, said he and his wife, Adele, drove through to see the presentation, and he remarked that it was "wonderfully done" by the Zion Chapel Baptist congregation. He said he could tell a lot of thought and planning had gone into this to make it successful. Above is a scene from last weekend's living nativity presentation.

Elba High volleyball team recognized at BOE meeting



The Elba High School volleyball team was recognized Tuesday, Dec. 12, during the Elba Board of Education meeting for a successful season. The team made it to the Elite 8 in the volleyball playoffs for Class 1A. The team is pictured above with the Elba BOE members, Superintendent Chris Moseley, and board attorney Merrill Shirley.

The superintendent said the Elba Career Academy had been approached with the opportunity to start a new career tech program - JAG (Jobs for Alabama Graduates). This program identifies and provides educational support and success strategies for Alabama's highest at-risk students.

Moseley said students that participate in the JAG program must meet certain criteria.

"We are looking at moving Local school board leaders advance in AASP Academy

Local school board members from Southeast Alabama were among the honorees at the Alabama Association of School Boards' awards luncheon held Friday, Dec. 1, at The Sheraton Birmingham Hotel.

In all, 35 local school board members from AASB District 3 - included in 303 school board members statewide - were recognized for advancing in the School Board Member Academy, AASB's training program for school board members. The education leaders were honored for their commitment to ongoing professional development to deepen their understanding of education issues and strengthen their boardmanship and leadership skills.

AASB has nine geographic districts. District 3 includes Andalusia, Barbour County, Coffee County, Covington County, Crenshaw County, Dale County, Daleville, Dothan, Elba, Enterprise, Eufaula, Geneva (City), Geneva County, Henry County, Houston County, Opp, Ozark, Pike County and Troy.

"AASB congratulates these members who are dedicated to expanding on their boardmanship skills through AASB's School Board Member Academy," said AASB executive director Sally Smith. "They continue to set the bar high for themselves and others with their commitment and passion for public education."

Coffee County garbage pickup will be affected by upcoming holidays

During the Coffee County Commission meeting held Monday morning, Dec. 11, environmental services coordinator Mike Thornton issued a reminder to county residents regarding garbage collection services for the upcoming holidays.

Thornton said the county landfill would be closed both Mondays, Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st. Therefore, he said there would be no residential garbage pickup for either of those days. Instead, he said the county's garbage collection for both those weeks would shift to the right by one day for all customers.

For example: Normal Monday pickup will be held on Tuesday; normal Tuesday pickup will be held on Wednesday, normal Wednesday pickup will be on Thursday, and so on for the remainder of the week. The shift applies to both the week of Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st.

Also, during the meeting county administrator Rod Morgan reminded all that county offices [generally open five days per week] would be closed Friday, Dec. 22, in observance of Christmas Eve, and closed Monday, Dec. 25, for Christmas Day.

County offices also will be closed Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day.

Coach [Kelsey] Prestwood into that position," Moseley said. "This also is another class for the county students to come over and participate

See ELBA, Page 3

Local area District 3 board members who achieved new levels during the School Board Member Academy's 2022-2023 training year, which began July 1, 2022, and ended June 30, 2023 included:

- Level I (Requires 25 training hours)
Johnny Senn, Elba
Jennifer Boykins, Enterprise
- Level II (Requires 50 training hours)
Steven Duke, Enterprise
- Level III (Requires 75 training hours)
Brandi Carr, Coffee County
- Level II & III (Reached both levels in the same year)
Sherry Eddins, Coffee County
- Master (Has completed the 100 hours including all eight core courses required in Level IV, plus 15 hours and one additional core course)
Galen McWaters, Coffee County, first time
DeAnn Grantham, Elba, second time

Covington County, Crenshaw County, Dale County, Daleville, Dothan, Elba, Enterprise, Eufaula, Geneva (City), Geneva County, Henry County, Houston County, Opp, Ozark, Pike County and Troy.

"AASB congratulates these members who are dedicated to expanding on their boardmanship skills through AASB's School Board Member Academy," said AASB executive director Sally Smith. "They continue to set the bar high for themselves and others with their commitment and passion for public education."

NOTICE:

The Elba Clipper will feature "Dear Santa Letters" in the Thursday, Dec. 21, edition of the paper.

The office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, for Christmas Day and Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"No one reads a small-town newspaper to find out what happened; they read the paper to find out who got caught."

By the time this edition of The Elba Clipper is delivered, most readers of this column will have already heard that the author, Ferrin Cox, left his home in an ambulance last Thursday.

We are pleased to report that he is recovering well from his medical emergency, but opted to take a pass at writing "Brainstorms" this week. Since there have been very few weeks in the past 60 years when he exercised that privilege, we thought he'd earned the break.

His children are eternally grateful for all who came to his aid last week, especially Chris Thigpen, who happened to drive by at the right time and stopped to provide immediate aid. Thank you also to the many who responded when Chris alerted first responders.

Thank you also to Linda Hodge, who has stepped up in ways large and small to make sure The Clipper continues to function, and to all who've given her an extra hand. It will be no surprise to anyone who knows "Mr. Ferrin" well that his first concerns last week were for the newspaper.

The full story will be his to tell in a future column, but until then, we could not forego the opportunity to express our appreciation. The very best thing about Elba is the residents who love and care for each other, and we've seen that love in action again in the last week.

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Get medical attention if symptoms of hypothermia occur

The milder climate of Alabama in winter may mask the need to be aware of hypothermia, a medical emergency that can lead to death.

Hypothermia occurs when the body's core temperature falls below 95 degrees F, just a few degrees less than the normal body temperature. When exposed to cold, human bodies begin to lose heat faster than it can be produced.

Provisional data for 2022 from the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) Center for Health Statistics show there were 18 deaths of Alabama residents from hypothermia in 2022, an increase in number from the 10 deaths in 2021.

To prevent hypothermia, stay warm, keep well informed and take extra precautions during times of extremely

cold weather.

Everyone should remember to lower the risks of cold-weather health problems by dressing in multiple layers to help retain body heat, limit time outdoors, and remove wet clothing immediately.

ADPH cautions that hypothermia makes people unable to think clearly or move well. This makes hypothermia especially dangerous, because a person may not know when it is occurring and then will not be able to do anything about it.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), victims of hypothermia are often:

- Older adults with inadequate food, clothing or heating
- Babies sleeping in cold bedrooms

Elba Police Report

This report reflects activity for the Elba Police Department from Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023, through Monday, Dec. 11, 2023, as reported to and dispatched from the Coffee County 911 Dispatch Center.

Tuesday, Dec. 5 - Suspicious vehicle reported at 1344 Hwy 166 (9:53 a.m.); Domestic incident reported at 592 County Rd 452, Kinston (6:34 p.m.); Drug activity reported to Elba Police (8:49 p.m.). Four traffic stops resulted in three verbal warnings, and one citation.

Wednesday, Dec. 6 - Animal complaint reported at 802 Newton St (1:37 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 637 N Claxton Ave (5:00 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 84 W (7:17 p.m.).

Thursday, Dec. 7 - Animal complaint reported at 265 County Rd 501 (10:35 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 265 County Rd 501 (12:44 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1220

E Davis St (10:25 p.m.); Domestic incident reported at 1222 Hickman Ave (11:54 p.m.). Two traffic stops resulted in one written warning, and one advice given.

Friday, Dec. 8 - Animal complaint reported on Stroud Ave (1:51 p.m.); Identity theft reported to Elba Police (1:59 p.m.); Disorderly person reported at 561 E Davis St (8:02 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a citation.

Saturday, Dec. 9 - Animal complaint reported at 6036 County Rd 364 (7:44 p.m.); Theft of property reported on Beaver Dam St C5 (7:46 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1620 Boswell St (10:04 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

Sunday, Dec. 10 - Animal complaint reported at 243 Old Samson Rd (12:50 a.m.); Suspicious abandoned vehicle reported at 381 Tiger Dr (9:22 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 913 Simmons St (5:30 p.m.).

Monday, Dec. 11 - Theft of property reported at 1315 Hickman Ave (6:13 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 731 West St (6:31 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 1245 Jones Circle (7:32 a.m.); Missing person reported to Elba Police (1:28 p.m.); Drug activity reported to Elba Police (4:01 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a written warning.

• People who remain outdoors for long periods—the unheated, hikers, hunters and others

• People who drink alcohol or use illicit drugs.

As the body ages, the ability to maintain a constant internal temperature decreases. Hypothermia risk is even greater when an older person has a chronic condition that affects the circulatory or neurologic systems, or the thyroid. When the core temperature falls, bodily functions shut down.

Knowing what to do in cold weather can help prevent hypothermia. To provide protection, living quarters for older adults should be heated to at least 65 degrees F, they should wear suitable clothing, have plenty of warm blankets available, and eat nutritionally balanced food. In addition to advanced age, common risk factors for hypothermia are substance abuse and mental impairment.

Certain commonly used drugs such as tranquilizers may contribute to the onset of hypothermia. Furthermore, many deaths from hypothermia are complicated by alcohol consumption, which can lead to dehydration and impaired judgment.

The CDC lists the following signs and symptoms of hypothermia:

Adults:

- Shivering
- Exhaustion or feeling very tired
- Confusion
- Fumbling hands
- Memory loss
- Slurred speech
- Drowsiness

Babies:

- Bright red, cold skin

• Very low energy

Immediate medical attention is needed if a person's temperature falls below 95 degrees F, the CDC advises. If unable to get medical help right away, try to warm the person up.

• Get the person into a warm room or shelter.

• Remove any wet clothing the person is wearing.

• Warm the center of the person's body—chest, neck, head, and groin—using an electric blanket, if available. You can also use skin-to-skin contact under loose, dry layers of blankets, clothing, towels, or sheets.

• Warm drinks can help increase body temperature, but do not give alcoholic drinks. Do not try to give beverages to an unconscious person.

• After body temperature has increased, keep the person dry and wrap their body, including their head and neck, in a warm blanket.

• Get the person proper medical attention as soon as possible.

A person with severe hypothermia may be unconscious and may not seem to have a pulse or to be breathing. If this happens, handle the person gently, and get emergency assistance immediately.

Perform CPR, even if the person appears dead. CPR should continue until the person responds or medical aid becomes available. Keep warming the person while performing CPR. In some cases, hypothermia victims who appear to have died can be successfully resuscitated.

Hypothermia prevention information is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/diseases/winter/staysafe/hypothermia.html>.

Cuzin Lou Lou's
Tales from Yonder

Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

It's a big week for Sister, and Cuzin Lou Lou encourages all friends to help her extend a big 'ole "Happy Birthday" to her.

Sister has reached the halfway spot between her fourth and fifth decade on earth, and she's just as spoiled today as she was when she first came to be Lou Lou's little sister all those years ago! The good news is that Sister doesn't necessarily "look" her age even if she says she "feels"

it daily.

Lou Lou and Sister ventured off for a little overnight get-away last weekend to celebrate the upcoming birthday, and even though they got a later-than-expected start to the trip due to Lou Lou needing to work late, it still was a nice change of pace for them both. The trip did prove that even when it comes to sleeping conditions, however, Lou Lou and Sister are as different as night and day.

The room they acquired came with a king size, which meant sharing. When the two woke up the next morning, Sister immediately expressed her dislike of the bed. She noted it was "hard as a rock" and that had caused her back to hurt. As she continued discussing her dislike of the bed, she noticed that Lou Lou was staying quiet...upon question as to what Lou Lou's thoughts were, well, Sister did not like the response.

"Actually, I thought it was a comfortable bed," Lou Lou said.

Sister could not believe what she was hearing!

"The problem is," Lou Lou continued, "you like a soft mattress whereas I prefer a firm mattress. The mattress on that bed is very firm. It slept great to me!"

Sister was not happy, but she did have to admit that Lou Lou was correct.

"Even in how we sleep, we differ," Lou Lou laughed.

The two are definitely different as night and day, but Lou Lou wouldn't trade Sister for anything. She hopes Sister has enjoyed her birthday week, and Lou Lou wishes her many, many more!

Maybe next time, though, Lou Lou will pick a hotel with more comfortable bedding for Sister...it would certainly make the following day more pleasant for all if Sister is 'well-rested' and happy!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

Have at least **14** fewer reasons to worry

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The Elba Clipper

USPS 171-080
is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper,
417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323
Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323

Postmaster: Send Address Changes To:
The Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 677, Elba, AL 36323-0677

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

NOTICE:

City of Elba offices will be closed
Monday, Dec. 25, and Tuesday, Dec. 26, for Christmas.

The garbage truck will still run its normal routes on these days.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

Governor Ivey awards funds to help assist low-income families with heating and cooling costs

Governor Kay Ivey awarded more than \$46 million in grants to 18 community service agencies that provide emergency assistance to help low-income households cover the costs of staying warm during the winter and cool during the summer.

"High energy bills can be an overwhelming burden for families that are already struggling to meet their basic needs," Gov. Ivey said. "These grants will help low-income Alabama residents weather the cold winter ahead as well as the hot summer months to come."

The community agencies accept applications at the

During Elba City Council meeting

Interim police chief says officers made an arrest in recent burglary

Elba interim Police Chief Shayne Arnett reported Monday night, Dec. 11, during the Elba City Council meeting that officers had been busy recently.

Arnett said the department had made several arrests for illegal drugs in the last couple of weeks. Also, the chief noted that investigators had closed a

recent burglary case where the Guns R Us store in Elba had been burglarized.

Arnett said an arrest had been made in that case. He commended officers on a job well done to get that case solved.

Beyond that, Chief Arnett reported routine business for the police department.

Making the holiday season dementia-friendly: the Do's and Don'ts

With the holiday season in full swing, the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) is offering tips to help the millions of Americans caring for a loved one with dementia celebrate the holidays with their loved one in a dementia-friendly manner.

"People with dementia can still, and should be encouraged to, enjoy and participate in the spirit of the holiday season. Because of the way dementia-related illnesses impact the brain, they may not be able to do it exactly as they did prior to the onset of dementia," said Jennifer Reeder, LCSW, AFA's Director of Educational and Social Services. "By being adaptable and sensitive to the person's needs and wishes, caregivers can help create a joyous, dementia-friendly holiday season for their loved one with dementia."

AFA offers these dos and don'ts for creating a dementia-friendly holiday season:

Do: Keep decorations simple. Decorating is part of the holiday season fun, however, too much stimulation may be challenging for someone with dementia. Keep decorations festive, but simple. Instead of elaborate decorations, choose a few favorite items. Phase in decorations over a period of days so that changes to the person's environment are less confusing.

Don't: Overdecorate or use dangerous decorations. Too many flickering lights or noisy items could overwhelm someone living with dementia. Changes to the person's environment might cause disorientation, which may then lead to wandering. Be aware of safety issues: fragile decorations can shatter into sharp fragments and decorations that look like food or candy could be mistaken for edible treats, creating a choking or dental hazard.

Do: Adapt past favorite traditions or create new and viable ones. Build on old traditions when appropriate, such as enjoying favorite music or movies, or looking at pictures of past holiday celebrations. Adapt past traditions as well; if the person always sent out holiday cards or baked holiday cookies and still wants to do so, do it together with them. If they can no longer shop for gifts for their loved ones, invite them to help with wrapping the gifts so that they feel involved. Start new traditions that center on activities and events the person enjoys and can do, such as touring neighborhood holiday lights; plan to do it together. Whenever

possible, ask what traditions are important to your loved one—it keeps them engaged, and helps you prioritize and plan appropriately.

Don't: Dwell on past practices. Take a strengths-based and person-centered approach and incorporate what the person can do and what they choose to do now, rather than dwelling on what they used to do. Focus on those things that bring joy and let go of activities that seem too stressful. It is normal to feel some sadness about changes and losses, especially during a holiday. Acknowledge these feelings and then move on to new ways to celebrate.

Do: Create a safe and calm space. Create a space where your loved one can sit comfortably during a holiday gathering, and where guests can visit in small groups or one-to-one. To the greatest extent possible, maintain the person's normal routine when scheduling visits or holiday gatherings; disruptions in routine can be difficult for someone living with dementia.

Don't: Neglect safety. Be very mindful of potential tripping hazards on the floor, such as wires for decorations, as dementia can cause changes in vision, depth perception, and gait. Securely hook Christmas

trees to the wall to avoid falls and use menorahs or kinaras with electric candles to reduce fire hazards.

Alzheimer's disease, which is the most common form of dementia, affects more than 6.2 million Americans. The number of people in the US with Alzheimer's disease is expected to more than double by 2060, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The AFA Helpline is available seven days a week to help provide additional information about creating dementia-friendly holidays or any other caregiving questions. Connect with a licensed social worker by phone (866-232-8484), wechat (www.alzfdn.org) or text message (646-586-5283). The web chat and text message features can serve individuals in more than 90 different languages.

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Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

DIANE BRAGG MACON

Mrs. Diane Bragg Macon, age 72, of Kinston, Ala., died Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023, at Medical Center Enterprise in Enterprise, Ala.

Funeral services were held from Hayes Funeral Home Chapel on Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, at 2 p.m., with Rev. Shirley Hatcher officiating. Committal services followed in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband: Paul Macon, Kinston; daughter: Heather (Scott) Lawless; son: Paul (Michele) Macon Jr., Kinston; granddaughters: Courtney (Barney) McCrummen, and Brooke Macon, both of Kinston, Cassy

Cooper, Buford, SC, and Caitlin Cooper, Charleston, SC; grandsons: Joe (Callie) Parrish, Elba, and Alan Cooper; great-granddaughters: Ollie Mae McCrummen, and Mary McCrummen, both of Kinston, and Clara Belle Parrish, Elba.

MARILYN GEOGHAGAN

Mrs. Marilyn Geoghagan, age 88, a resident of Kinston, Ala., died Friday, Dec. 1, 2023, at HCA Florida Fort Walton-Destin Hospital in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Graveside services were held Thursday, Dec. 1, 2023, from the Zion Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Derek Snellgrove offi-

ciating. Burial followed under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home of Elba, Ala.

Mrs. Geoghagan was preceded in death by her husband, Clayton Geoghagan, along with her parents, Ila Donaldson Bonner and William Henry Strickland.

Survivors include daughters: Cathi Fallin, Kinston, Ala., Cindy (Jerry) Per-

grum, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; son: Wade Fallin, Atlantic Beach, Fla.; and a brother: Bobby Ray (Peggy) Strickland, Tallahassee, Fla., along with five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Christmas break.

Teachers will return from the holidays on Wednesday, Jan. 3, while students will return Monday, Jan. 8, for second semester.

The superintendent and board members wished for all to have a safe and blessed Christmas season.

provided a financial statement to review, and gave approval to that statement.

Elba students will enter Christmas break Thursday, Dec. 14, after a half-day of school. The teachers

will have a professional development day on Dec. 15th before they enter their

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Kit Johnson, Pastor
First Baptist Church Elba

"A Charlie Brown Christmas"

I came across the following article on a friend's Facebook page. I was unable to locate the original author, but I felt compelled to share the back story to one of our favorite Christmas classics. I was personally encouraged by Charles Schulz's faith, and I believe you will be as well.

I pray we are all as committed to proclaiming the gospel as he, especially this time of year. Enjoy!

"In 1965, Charles Schulz, a devout Christian and creator of the Peanuts comic strip, was asked to create a Christmas special for CBS featuring the Peanuts Characters. He agreed with one requirement, that they allow him to include the story of the birth of Jesus. Although the station's executives were hesitant and tried to convince him otherwise, Schulz was insistent. As a result, for the past 50 plus years, millions of people have watched and "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and heard the story of Jesus and "what Christmas is all about."

It wasn't until a few years back that I realized a "hidden message" in the film. Linus is a child who seems to have some insecurities as he carries a security blanket with him at all times. In fact, Linus NEVER drops his blanket, except once....

While sharing the message of "what Christmas is all about," Linus drops his blanket at the exact moment he says the words, "fear not!"

In this seemingly innocent moment, Linus delivers a powerful reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. We are to "fear not", for Jesus is born. We needn't rely on material things for security, we have God with us, "Immanuel", (Matthew 1:23) Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior - the true meaning of Christmas.

While back, someone informed me, indignantly so, that Linus picks up his blanket at the end of the speech so my interpretation must be wrong. Well, he was right, Linus does pick up his blanket at the end of his speech. However, he "drops" it again later....

Amid big, bright, colorful, shiny artificial trees, Charlie Brown chose the least of these, a little, wooden tree with just a few branches. Shortly thereafter, Linus uses his blanket to wrap about the base of the tree and says, "Maybe it just needs a little love." In that moment, the tree "awakens", stands tall and firm. A reminder that no matter who we are, how many mistakes we've made, a "little love" can make all the difference.

Let's strive to "fear not" (Luke 2:10) and "love one another" (John 13:34), not just at Christmastime, but the whole year through."



The children of First Baptist Church Elba presented their Christmas program last Sunday evening, Dec. 10. Jacks Bane (left) is pictured here singing a solo in the program as others members of the children's choir look on.

First Baptist Church Elba offers special worship opportunities during December

First Baptist Church Elba will have several special services during the month of December to celebrate the birth of Christ.

The adult Christmas cantata will be Sunday, Dec. 17, at 5 p.m.

The church also will host a

Damascus Baptist Church invites all enjoy Dec. 17th Christmas cantata

The choir of Damascus Baptist Church will perform its Christmas cantata on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 p.m.

"The Living Gift" will be a 25-minute Christmas



Become an
ADULT FOSTER CARE
Provider
"Love Never Ages"

Round and About

With Eria's Daughter
334-282-2200



Scripture: A Call to Worship and Obedience [Psalm 95: 1-11]

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Rev. Chauncey Brown Family, Dale Johnson, Jamie Jones Family, Lavonne Brooks, Faye Manning, World Leaders, Timothy Williams, Glen Gray

December Birthdays

Nyeshia Johnson 12/6
Omega Knight 12/8
Gladys Yelverton 12/8
Vernette Purvis 12/10
Stephen Bennett 12/10
Clara Wright 12/10
Anthony C. Kelley 12/11
Daejun Jahterion Perrineau 12/11
Asya L. Smedley 12/12
Ashley R. Smedley 12/12
Denzell Thomas 12/12

Credentials

In the winter of 2015, a 17-year-old boy wandered the halls of a medical center in West Palm Beach, Florida. He wore a white lab coat with the hospital's logo, carried a stethoscope, and even donned a surgical mask at times. People working in the center assumed he was a doctor. They assumed wrongly; he had no medical credentials. This type of thing happens more often than one would like to think. A few years earlier, another 17-year-old boy impersonated a doctor at a different medical center in Florida. For five days, he examined patients, provided care, and assessed patient information. Suspicious grew as he repeatedly attempted to gain access to restricted areas. He was caught when staff in the emergency department reported him. Credentials were important in antiquity too. The only valid "accrediting agency" for prophetic work was God. The credentials for Amos came straight from

Him. Some who would lead us astray today may appear outwardly well-qualified, yet still be "ravening wolves" on the inside (Matthew 7:15). Amos' experience in evaluating "sycamore fruit" may have helped him in examining spiritual fruit. That is a quality we are to have as well. See Matthew 7:16-20. —L.M.W.

Question / Answer Section

Q/A for the Week of 12/14/23

True or False
Q: Christians should teach and admonish each other through singing.

A: True [Colossians 3:16]
Q: Faith and love have no inherent connection with one another.

A: False [Galatians 5:6]
Q: Even in Christ, there is still a sharp division between Jew and Greek.

A: False [Galatians 3:28]

Thought to Remember

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." (Psalm 111:10)

Questions for the Week of 12/21/23

Multiple Choice

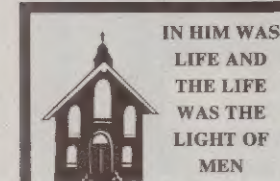
Q: What kind of song did the Psalmist encourage be sung? (new, old, or repetitions)

Q: The gods of the nations are what? (demons, angels, idols)

Today is a good day! Be grateful.
Eria's Daughter, Sue

Worship at the Church of Your Choice Every Sunday!

Celebrate The Birth Of Christ
Bob Bush, DVM
Veterinary Express of Lake Martin
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery
334-343-0408
Intersection of Claxton Ave & Simmons St
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Upcoming Elba Clinics: Jan 3rd & Jan 17th



IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIGHT OF MEN
ABUNDANT GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Rocky Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.
Richard Thora Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

BETH EL AME CHURCH
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class... 6:30 p.m.

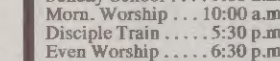
BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH
Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.

CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH
Remona Smith, Pastor
Church Service... 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH
Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night... 7:00 p.m.



COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Paul Jackson, Pastor
Sunday Fellowship... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week" and meal... 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study & Prayer... 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH
Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training... 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

EAON BAPTIST CHURCH
Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Philip Box, Minister
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
David Noble, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:45 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY
H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night... 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Night... 7:00 p.m.

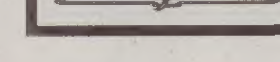
ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE
Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Kit Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.



EVANGELIST TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:30 p.m.

FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Phillip Adcock, Pastor
Sunday School... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.

1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINSTON
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Service... 6:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS CHURCH
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:45 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.

GODS POWER HOUSE EVANGELISTIC CHURCH
Overseers - Billy Berry
Sat. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 4:00 p.m.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP TABERNACLE
John Curtis Isaacs, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

GREATER NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Marvin Luckett Jr., Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Service... 6:00 p.m.

HAW HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Shirley Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Services... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

HERRON BAPT. CHURCH
Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting... 7:00 p.m.

HOLY TEMPLE COGIC Glenwood, AL
Sunday Prayer... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD Wesley D. Ard, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 6:30 p.m.

INO BAPTIST CHURCH
Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School... 8:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 6:30 p.m.

INO BAPTIST CHURCH
Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School... 8:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 6:30 p.m.

JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Matthew Morris, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:15 p.m.

KINSTON 1st BAPT CHURCH
Heath Fountain, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LIVING WORD CHURCH
Derrick Stinson, Pastor
Saturday Service... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Youth Service... 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Service... 6:00 p.m.

LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST
Greg Hanchey, Minister
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LOVE'S WAY CHURCH
Charles Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

MT. GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH
Dewey Endinger, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 5:00 p.m.

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Otian Strickland, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 7:00 p.m.

NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH
Allen Diess, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

NEW GLORIOUS COGIC OF GOD CHURCH
James Sparks Jr., Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH
James Boots, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

ROETON BAPTIST CHURCH
Kerry Saxon, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

SHADY GROVE AME CHURCH
James Boots, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
Leon Fortune, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

WISDOM ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Dustin Wisecarver, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.

WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Donnie Marler, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:00 p.m.

WOOTEN CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
Mike Medley, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Cary Maulden, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

Church Directory

NEW HOPE BAPT CHURCH
Lanny Shepard, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 6:30 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Lorearl Flowers, Minister
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Julian Mitchell, Pastor
1st - 4th Sun. Morn. ... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service... 6:00 p.m.

OLD TABERNACLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Lee Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Ed Russell, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

PINEY GROVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD - SAMSON
Terry McCrummen, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

PRATHE & GLORY WORSHIP CENTER
Roy L. Turner, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

ROCKY HEAD M.B. CHURCH
A. R. Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

ROETON BAPTIST CHURCH
Kerry Saxon, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

SHADY GROVE AME CHURCH
James Boots, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
Leon Fortune, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

WISDOM ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Dustin Wisecarver, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.

WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Donnie Marler, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:00 p.m.

WOOTEN CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
Mike Medley, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Cary Maulden, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

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The Grinch and Buddy the Elf visited Elba City Hall on Monday, Dec. 4th. They are pictured above with City of Elba office employees Cara Horstead and Sandra Berry, and Elba Electric Department employee Blake Johnson.

LEGAL NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of **KEITH MARTIN BISHOP**, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-213

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration for the Estate of **Keith Martin Bishop** having been granted to **Sue A. Smith**, Personal Representative, on the 27th day of November, 2023 by the **Honorable Jodee R. Thompson**, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred. **DONE** this the 27th day of November, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge 11/30, 12/7 & 14-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA Elba Division

IN RE: The estate of **BERT ARTHUR BURRIL**, Deceased.

CASE NO. PC 2023-084

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to **CASEY JAMES BURRIL**, as Personal Representative of the estate of **Bert Arthur Burril**, deceased on the 24th day of September, 2023, by the Honorable Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Gary D. Bradshaw, GARY D. BRADSHAW (BRA074)

Attorney for Petitioner P.O. Box 311412 Enterprise, AL 36331-1412 (334) 393-6439 (334) 393-7163 fax 11/30, 12/7 & 14-pd.

Notice of Public Sale. An

online sale will be held at www.storage-treasures.com for A-Less Storage Enterprise, Alabama on or after 12:30 PM Thursday December 21st 2023. Personal Property of the following units will be sold for cash to satisfy owner's lien for due in accordance with AL Code § 8-15-34

UNIT B12 & A35 - Michael Lusk HHG

UNIT A36 - Robert Young HHG

UNIT A2 - Rory Moore HHG

12/7 & 14-chg

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of **Charles N. Locklar**, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-217

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **David Locklar**, Personal Representative, on the 1st day of December, 2023 by the Honorable **Jodee Thompson**, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred. **DONE** this the 1st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge 12/7, 14, & 21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of **Olen W. Brown**, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-216

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to **Eric Brown**, Personal Representative, on the 1st day of December, 2023 by the **HONORABLE JODEE R. THOMPSON**, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred. **DONE** this the 1st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge 12/7, 14 & 21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of **James Speigner**, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-206

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **Anthony Scott Speigner**, Personal Representative, on the 13th day of November, 2023 by the **Honorable Jodee Thompson**, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred. **DONE** this the 13th day of November, 2023.

/s/ Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge 12/7, 14, & 21-pd.

COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

The Coffee County Board of Education's FY2023 Accountability Reports are available for public view. The available reports are (1) Financial Report, (2) School Safety and Discipline Report and (3) Student Achievement Report. The Financial Report and the School Safety and Discipline Report are accessible at the Board's Central Office, 400 Reddoch Hill Road, Elba, as well as, at each of our schools. The reports may also be viewed via the district's website, www.coffeecountyschools.org. The Student Achievement Report may be accessed at the ALSDE's website (www.alsde.edu) under the Data Center, Assessment Reports. 12/14-chg.

STATE OF ALABAMA COFFEE COUNTY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section § 17-6-4(b), Code of Alabama, 1975, I, **Jodee R. Thompson**, Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama hereby give notice of the changes to the voting places therein as set out below. This notice outlines a designation of new voting precincts in Coffee County via prior resolution of the Coffee County Commission, dated November 27, 2023.Precinct District 3 Elba National Guard Armory is relocated to Elba Masonic Lodge, 340 Larkin Road, Elba, by designation of the Coffee County Commission. The Sheriff of Coffee County, Alabama shall post a copy of this notice at each courthouse and a two public places within the district. **DONE** this the 11th day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge, Coffee County 12/14-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **ADAM HEATH COOPER** Deceased

CASE NO. 2023-183

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to **Mary Ann Cooper**, Administratrix on the 1st day of December, 2023, by the Honorable **Jodee R. Thompson**, Judge of Probate Court of Coffee County Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred. **Mary Ann Cooper** 12/14, 21 & 28-pd.

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12/14-4t-pd.

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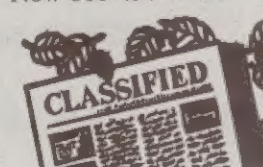
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SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We headed out for a little Christmas shopping over the weekend and bought just that – a little! We did get in our share of walking and spent some money, but didn't really get anything we were looking for and after eight hours came home with sore feet and aching backs. I hate to even think about buying anything online. However, it may be the way we get things done this year.

For what it is worth....

*** *The Elba Tigers are already the surprise team* in the area as they hit the basketball court just three days after their final football game and in just one week have already posted two wins at home. The Tigers had a hard time scoring in a season opening loss and still haven't locked in on the basket, but are playing hard and fast, and in a Friday win over Pike Lib rallied from a 20-point halftime deficit to win in overtime. I'm sure the Tigers will have nights when they simply can't shoot well enough to win. However, as long as they play hard they will always have a shot at posting wins. This may be a fun season after all! As for the Lady Tigers, the Elba girls rolled to three lopsided wins last week to improve their record to 4-1 and aren't even anywhere close to being at mid-season form. The Lady Tigers made the 'Final 4' a year ago and this season have a goal to win a state title, and if they keep improving will no doubt be a team to watch for other 1A teams across the state.

*** *The high school basketball season* is now at full speed and it looks like a fun season ahead for everyone in the area. On the boys' side, Zion Chapel and Brantley have made a lot of noise with early-season winning streaks, while New Brockton appears to have its best team in years and Kinston is slowly settling in to another new coach and beginning to hang some wins on its side of the board. Over with the girls, New Brockton is off to a fast start and many believe the Lady Gamecocks have a shot at making history, while Kinston is off to a fast start and may be a team to watch in the 1A ranks; Brantley is young, but knows how to win and will only get better and better; and, Zion Chapel will no doubt keep working hard and once it starts to win may just surprise some folks. Yep, we have a fun season ahead!

*** *The adoption of the 'Name, Image, Likeness'* financial package in college sports has forever changed the sports world as we knew it, and now it looks like NIL may soon be coming to high school sports in Alabama. A representative in the Alabama legislature last week filed a bill that would allow high school athletes in the state to make money off their name and image. The bill is limited to the athlete and would not allow the use of such items as school logos, school names, school mascot or logo of an athletic association. It is reported that 30 states already have an NIL rule in place, and the state legislator that filed the bill stated that since most high school athletes would never make it to the professional level, it would give high school athletes a chance to get compensated for their skills and talents. I have to agree that what he says does make sense, but it is still a slippery slope in college athletics and is really scary at the high school level.

*** *Alabama making the college playoffs* may still be big news to the Tide fans across the state and nation. However, the biggest college news locally came from just up the road last week with the announcement that popular head football coach John Sumrall had resigned to accept the head job at Tulane. I didn't even know the successful Trojan coach was looking to make a move after winning back-to-back conference championships, but found out he was a finalist for the job at Duke and had interviewed at Mississippi State before being picked to lead the Green Wave. It seems that university officials at Troy reportedly offered Sumrall a five-year contract worth at least \$7 million and promised major improvements to facilities, including an indoor practice field. However, published reports from New Orleans reported the now ex-Trojan coach will sign a six-year contract worth around \$15 million, will make facility upgrades and fill the coffers in regards to NIL funds. Trojan fans loved their former coach and should be thankful to the success he helped bring to the program. However, to me it looks like Coach Sumrall may be a coach that is more concerned about his bank account than being loyal to a school, and will always be on the lookout for another place that will open the checkbook even wider.

*** *In closing....* Elba fans were left shaking their heads and wondering what could have been after Leroy claimed the 1A state title last week with a win over Coosa Christian. All Tiger fans are still convinced the best team didn't win in the semifinals down at Leroy, but will just have to be content with the team's 13-1 record and all the positive statewide publicity it brought to the town.



Business of the Month:

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In opening week action**Tigers claim two big wins at home**

The Elba Tigers bounced back from a season opening loss on the road to close the week with two straight home court wins to post a 2-1 record in their opening week of high school basketball action.

Following is a recap of last week's three games:

Ariton 55 Elba 34

The Elba Tigers had a problem finding their way to the goal in the first half and never recovered in a 55-34 season opening loss to the Ariton Purple Cats, at Ariton.

Elba managed only six points in the first quarter and seven in the second quarter as Ariton raced out to a 29-13 halftime advantage, and while the Tigers did warm up from the floor in the second half it was too little, too late, as the Purple cats never lost command and posted the 55-34 win.

Cody Gray scored 8 points to lead Elba, while Cameron Gray, Jamal Siler and Emmanuel Cooks all added 6 points, Ty Sieving scored 5, Alvin Henderson 2 and Jacob Watkins 1.

Ian Senn scored 21 points and Matt McNair added 11 to lead Ariton.

Elba 55 Goshen 44

The Elba Tigers posted their first win of the young season by knocking off the Goshen Eagles, at the Elba gym.

The score was tied at 11-11 after one quarter. However, the Tigers outscored the Eagles 18-8 in the second quarter to open up a 29-19 halftime

Lady Tigers roll to three wins

The Elba Lady Tigers tipped off regular season play last week and made a statement to all future opponents as they rolled to three impressive wins to up their record to 4-1.

Following is a recap of last week's action:

Elba 54 Ariton 27

The Elba Lady Tigers took command midway through the opening quarter and slowly pulled away to claim a solid 54-27 road win over the Ariton Purple Cats.

The Lady Tigers stretched a 17-9 first quarter lead to 28-12 by the end of the half, and then took complete command in the third quarter and pushed their advantage to 45-18 as they claimed the big win.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 18 points and Kendra Juarez added 14 to spark Elba, while Tajah Purvis added 6, Ana Caldwell 5, Sydney Siler 3, Brooke Tinsley 3, Ny'Asia McCollough 3 and Ayrika Caldwell 2.

Elba 60 Goshen 17

The Elba Lady Tigers overcame a sluggish start to post a lopsided 60-17 home court win over the Goshen Lady Eagles.

Elba owned a slim 6-4

Elba Tiger JV claims first win

The Elba Tiger junior varsity opened its basketball season last week with three games and bounced back after two losses to close the week's action with a big win at home.

The Tigers tipped off the season at Ariton and dropped a 41-37 overtime decision to the Purple Cats. Scoring for the Tiger were Johnathan Edwards 9, Ky'Avian Stoudemire 8, Javante Griggs 7, Jordan Hammonds 7, Easton McKelvy 4 and Skylar Mitchell 2.

The Tigers hosted the Goshen Eagles in their first home game of the season and came out on the short end of a 40-26 final score. Scoring for the Tigers were Javante Griggs 9, Jordan Hammonds 6, Levi Martin

advantage, and then poured in 20 points in the third quarter to stretch their lead to 49-26 and coasted in with the big win.

Cameron Gray scored 11 points and Jamal Siler added 10 points and 11 rebounds to spark the Tigers, while Alvin Henderson scored 9 points, Ty Sieving 7, Cody Gray 6, Jacob Watkins 6, Emmanuel Cooks 4 and Brady Johnson 2.

Jamari McClure scored 12 points to lead the Eagles.

Elba 65 Pike Lib 64

The Elba Tigers staged a furious second half rally to send the game into overtime and then capped the comeback in the extra period to sneak past the Pike Lib Patriots, at the Elba gym.

Elba came out cold from the floor in the first half and trailed 33-13 at intermission, but scorched the nets for 26 points in the third quarter to pull within 44-39, and then caught the Patriots in the third quarter at 60-60 to force an extra period. The Tigers jumped out to a quick 64-60 lead in the four-minute stanza and never trailed as they held on to claim the exciting 65-64 win.

Alvin Henderson scored 24 points and Cody Gray added 13 to lead Elba, while Jamal Siler added 9, Jacob Watkins 8, Cameron Gray 7, Brady Johnson 2 and Ty Sieving 2.

Will Rice scored 17 points to lead the Patriots, while Jackson Mitchell added 17 and Sawyer Keck scored 14.

Lady Tigers roll to three wins

lead midway through the opening quarter, but pulled ahead 13-6 by the end of the stanza and by the end of the half had opened up a 32-15 advantage. The second half was all Elba, as the Lady Tigers outscored the Lady Eales 28-2 and ran away with the big 60-17 win.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 24 points to lead Elba, while Ny'Asia McCollough added 12, Ana Caldwell 10, Tajah Purvis 5, Kendra Juarez 4, Jadyne Caldwell 2, Taylor Day 2 and Sydney Siler 1.

Elba 52 Pike Lib 6

The Elba Lady Tigers capped off a winning week with a lopsided 52-6 home court win over the Pike Lib Lady Patriots.

Elba raced out to a 30-0 first quarter lead against the outmanned Lady Patriots, carried a 37-0 lead in at intermission and coasted in with the easy win to up their winning streak to four games.

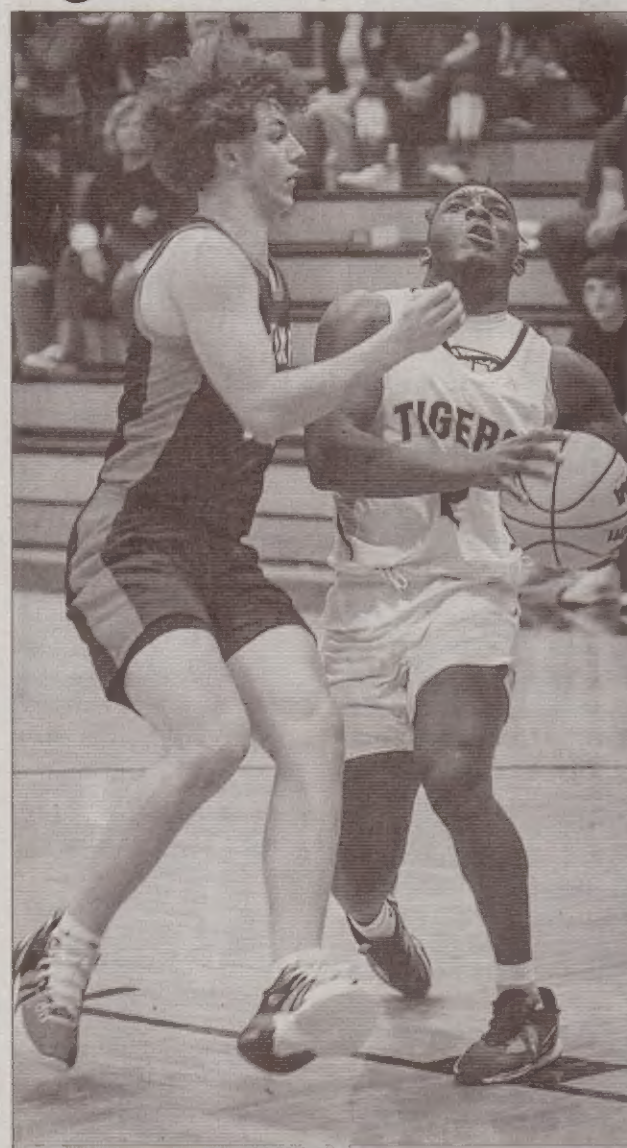
A'Lyric Whitfield scored 19 points and Tajah Purvis added 11 to lead the Lady Tigers, while Ana Caldwell added 5, Alayvia Stinson 4, Ny'Asia McCollough 4, Sydney Siler 3, Brooke Tinsley 2, Ayrika Caldwell 2, and Jadyne Caldwell 2.

Elba Tiger JV claims first win

5, Matthew McCart 4 and Skylar Mitchell 2.

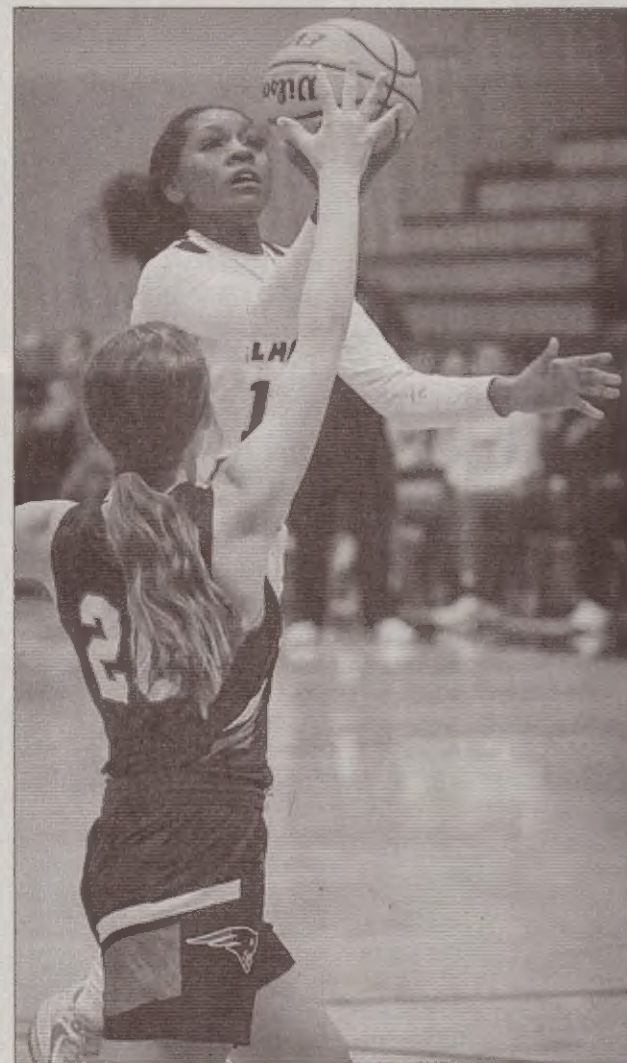
The Tigers closed out the week with a solid 51-10 home court win over the Pike Lib Patriots. Scoring for the Tigers were Johnathan Edwards 13, Javante Griggs 10, Easton McKelvy 7, Ryan Schindler 5, Matthew McCart 5, Levi Martin 3, Earl Tolentino 3, Ledell Ousley 3, and Skylar Mitchell 2.

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First!



Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (2) finds his path to the goal blocked by a Pike Lib defender. Henderson scored 24 points to spark a comeback win over the Patriots last week, in Elba.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)



Elba Lady Tiger A'Lyric Whitfield (in white) drives to the basket in last week's win over Pike Lib. Whitfield scored in double digits in all three Lady Tigers wins last week.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

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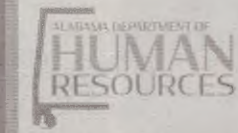
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SPORTS NEWS



Elba Tiger Alex Wisecup (3) etched his name in the AHSAA record book with an outstanding senior season with the Tigers.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

Over 43,000 football fans attend ‘Super 7’ prep championships

The 2023 AHSAA Super 7 State Football Championships totaled 43,014 for the seven boys’ football championship contests and two girls’ flag football finals played at Bryant-Denny Stadium on the University of Alabama campus.

“We want to thank the University of Alabama and the city of Tuscaloosa and Northport for what they do to make the Super 7 experience so special for our schools and our communities,” said Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Executive Director Alvin Briggs.

“The Super 7 has become such an important event in the lives of our student-athletes thanks to our opportunity to play in such special venues like Tuscaloosa, Auburn, and Birmingham. This year was very special and lifetime memory for our student-athletes, coaches, schools, and communities.”

Total attendance was 43,014 with Friday’s attendance topping the week with 17,911 for the 2A, 4A and 6A championship games. Wednesday’s total, which included the for the

first time two girls’ flag Football finals and the Class 7A championship game, drew 11,891. Thursday’s total was 13,212 for classes 1A, 3A and 5A.

Briggs also praised the work of Knight Eady and the many volunteers who stepped forward at Tuscaloosa.

“Our state championships are the best in the nation,” he said. “All of our participating displayed tremendous sportsmanship, and each of the games were outstanding. We are grateful and blessed.”

Briggs also acknowledged the outstanding television / live streaming video coverage supplied by the NFHS Network and Alabama Public Television and produced by WOTM TV, plus the AHSAA Radio Network, for providing the opportunity for thousands more to see and hear the games in their living rooms in virtually every corner of the state and the nation.

State champions crowned included (1A) Leroy, (2A) Fyffe, (3A) Mobile Christian, (4A) Montgomery Catholic, (5A) Gulf Shores, (6A) Clay-Chalkville, and (7A) Central, Phenix City.

Henderson and Wisecup enter names in AHSAA record book after banner season

While the Elba Tigers were disappointed in closing the high school football season with a 13-1 record after a loss in the Class 1A semifinals, it was still a record-breaking season for at least two Tigers as junior, running back, Alvin Henderson broke or tied six state records, while senior, placekicker Alex Wisecup added his name to the record book in four categories.

Henderson, one of the nation’s highest recruited juniors, set records for yards rushing in a season with 3,523; rushing touchdowns in a season with 61; points scored in a season with 402; total touchdowns scored in a season with 68; and consecutive games played with a touchdown with 26. He also moved into a tie for non-passing touchdowns scored in a season with 67.

With one season left in high school, the Elba Tiger standout is closing in on a number of more records. He has 7,274 career rushing yards, which ranks 11th in state history, 2,565 yards behind the state record; has scored 141 career touchdowns, which ranks third only 19 td’s behind the record; has scored 132 career rushing touchdowns, 13 td’s short of the record; and, has scored a total of 846 career points, which is only 82 points shy of the record.

“Alvin is obviously a very talented young man and we appreciate everything he has done for the team this year and during his career here at Elba High,” said Elba Tiger head coach Marc Sieving. “It is a true accomplishment to set a state record and he has almost re-written the book in three years. While I am certainly proud of his accomplishments on the football field, I am also proud of the leader he has



Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (2) broke a number of AHSAA state records during the 2023 high school football season and moved near the top in numerous others while leading the Tigers to a 13-1 record.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

become on the team and the hard work he has put in. He has been a humble person in any honor he has received, and we are just so proud of him and proud to call him an Elba Tiger.”

Wisecup, one of the top placekickers all-time in Elba Tiger history, ranks second in the state record books with 93 extra-points

in a season; ranks seventh in the record books with 105 points scored in a season; ranks seventh with 198 extra-points in a career; and, ranks 11th all-time with 219 career points scored.

“Alex has been such a big part of our team in recent years and he has done so much on his own

to become a standout kicking the football,” added Coach Sieving. “It is a big difference in kicking a soccer ball and a football, and Alex has put in countless hours working to get better and played a huge role in our success. He is an outstanding kicker and an outstanding person.”

High School

HOOP HIGHLIGHTS

BOYS:

New Brockton 63 Goshen 45

The New Brockton Gamecocks added a win last week with an exciting 63-45 victory over the Goshen Eagles. Baylon Foster scored 21 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Anthony Silar added 13, Josiah Peterson added 11 and Yassiah Rousseau scored 10.

Brantley 73 McKenzie 69

The Brantley Bulldogs had to battle for all four quarters to claim a 73-69 win over the McKenzie Tigers. Jayden Parks scored 35 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and handed out 5 assists to lead the Bulldogs, while Daylan Davis added 10 points and Janyies Tyson pulled down 12 rebounds.

Pike Lib 62 Kinston 55

The Kinston Bulldogs struggled to find the goal in a 62-35 loss to the Pike Lib Patriots. Michael Thompson scored 14 points and Colby Tew added 12 to lead the Bulldogs, while the Patriots were led by Sawyer Keck with 23 points.

Kinston 53 Northside Methodist 51

Kinston’s CJ Lunsford scored at the buzzer to lift the Bulldogs to an exciting 53-51 win over Northside Methodist. Colby Tew scored 17 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Michael Thompson added 13 and Zane Martin scored 9. Braylen Clements scored 15 points and grabbed 15 rebounds to lead Northside Methodist.

Pleasant Home 61 Zion Chapel 60

The Zion Chapel Rebels watched as Pleasant Home hit two free throws with less than a second left on the clock in a 61-60 upset loss to the Eagles. Mason Stuart scored 21 points to lead Zion Chapel, while Slade Grantham added 17 and Jacob Chestnut scored 14. Dillan Purifoy scored 26 points to lead the Eagles.

Brantley 63 Milton Central 55

The Brantley Bulldogs continued to add up the wins in early-season action with a 63-55 victory over Milton Central. Jayden Parks scored 26 points and Daylan Davis added 18 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs.

Zion Chapel 47 Wicksburg 43

The Zion Chapel Rebels had to fight for all four quarters to claim a big 47-43 win over the Wicksburg Panthers. Jacob Chestnut scored 17 points, and hit four three-pointers in the second quarter, to lead the Rebels, while Slade Grantham added 15 points. Gabe Glover led Wicksburg with 24 points.

New Brockton 45 Pike Lib 34

The New Brockton Gamecocks got back in the win column with a solid 45-34 victory over the Pike Lib Patriots. Yassiah Rousseau scored 10 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Josiah Lewis added 9, and Anthony Silar and Keayon Kitton added 8 points, apiece. Will Rice

led Pike Lib with 11 points.

GIRLS:

Brantley 45 Goshen 23

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs took command early and rolled to a 45-23 win over the Goshen Lady Eagles. Alex Grimes scored 11 points and pulled down 8 rebounds to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Myia Mount added 10 points and 12 rebounds, and Mary Driggers added 8 points and 11 rebounds.

New Brockton 73 Goshen 16

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks made it look easy in a 73-16 win over the Goshen Lady Eagles. Ariana Smith scored 23 points to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Aniya Barkley added 14 points and pulled down 11 rebound, Gabby Eubanks added 13 points and Reese Eddins added 9 points and 5 assists.

Kinston 53 Pike Lib 5

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs rolled to a lopsided 53-5 win over the Lady Patriots from Pike Lib. Kaley Norris scored 28 points and drained five three-pointers in the win, while Camdyn Norris and Magdalyn Martin both added 8 points, and Lauren Norris scored 7.

Geneva 59 Kinston 39

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs dropped a hard fought 59-39 decision to the Geneva Lady Panthers. Kaley Norris scored 26 points to lead Kinston, while Kaden Ward led Geneva with 22 points.

Wicksburg 44 Zion Chapel 6

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels fell behind early and never recovered in a 44-6 loss to the Wicksburg Lady Panthers. Bella Sellers scored 18 points to lead Wicksburg, while Kelsey Ellenburg added 8 points.

New Brockton 66 Pike Lib 5

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks coasted to a lopsided 66-5 win over the Pike Lib Lady Patriots. Ariana Smith scored 19 points to lead New Brockton, while Casey Williams added 14 and Gabby Eubanks scored 11. Mary Holland Stephens scored 4 points to lead Pike Lib.


JV BOYS:

Kinston 36 Pike Lib 25

The Kinston Bulldogs out together a solid four quarter performance in a 36-25 won over the Pike Lib Patriots. Gabriel Hataway scored 14 points and Kolin Sims added 9 to lead the Bulldogs, while Jackson Bowen and Braden Shirley scored 6 points, apiece, for the Patriots.

New Brockton 34 Pike Lib 16

The New Brockton Gamecocks posted an impressive 34-16 win over the Pike Lib Patriots. David Harris scored 9 points and Kale McClelland added 6 to lead the Gamecocks, while Pike Lib was led by Jacob Bowen with 5 points.



City of
ELBA

NOTICE

City Privilege Licenses
are due
January 1, 2024
and delinquent
February 1, 2024

Penalties will be assessed if license is not
purchased prior to February 1.

For further information or to
purchase a license, please
contact Sandra Berry at
(334) 897-2333.

City of Elba, AL
Sally Bane, City Clerk

LIFESTYLES

Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama reminds community of outreach opportunities

The Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama has a grant that is providing hams and staple food items to the Ma-Chis tribal elderly and veterans.

An appointment must be made to obtain the food. The Tribe will not be delivering food.

For veterans, please provide proof of status as a veteran.

Food cannot be picked up on Monday, Dec. 18, and Friday, Dec. 22; otherwise send an email to machiscreeks@outlook.com or call (334) 897-3207 to make an appointment to come pick up the food items.

Also, for those that received a Keepseagle

settlement, there will be a meeting Monday, Dec. 18, at 9 a.m. Those who farmed can attend if interested in the current discrimination case against the USDA.

Keepseagle claimants should bring proof of receiving Keepseagle.

To receive any services from the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama, including payment of heating, cooling, replacement of water, electrical appliances [heater, stove, refrigerator, freezer], payment of water and septic bills, cleaning of septic tanks, and connecting to public water service, call (334) 897-3207 or email machiscreeks@outlook.com to receive an application.



The Elba Chamber of Commerce extended a "special thanks" to these soldiers from Fort Novosel for their assistance Monday evening, Dec. 4, with the Elba Christmas Parade lineup. The soldiers provided a great deal of assistance to the Chamber in ensuring the parade flowed easily for the enjoyment of all citizens of Elba. Chamber director Sandy Williams said Elba's good-working partnership with Fort Novosel and its soldiers is a valuable asset to the City of Elba. The soldiers that assisted with the Elba Christmas Parade were (from left): SGT Annabelle Graham, SSG Prezel Hardy Jr., CPT Joseph Pabst, SGT Omar Merriweather, PFC Dylan Tullis, PFC Kile Hussey, SPC Jack Laidig, and PFC Bryan Piper.

Coffee County BOE votes to move forward with projects

The Coffee County Board of Education met Thursday evening, Dec. 7, and voted during the meeting to move forward with several construction projects at the schools.

Possibly the largest of the projects the board voted to move forward on included approving the low bid for the Zion Chapel Baseball/Softball Facility project. This project will bring approximately \$3 million worth of improvements to that facility.

The project will include construction of a new con-

cessions area, restrooms, batting cages and storage facility. The project is anticipated to get underway early 2024.

Board members also approved a low bid for a new 20-ton HVAC package unit for the New Brockton High School cafeteria.

Also, upon recommendation of Superintendent Kelly Cobb, board members voted to bid two additional projects. These included bidding locker room renovations at New Brockton High School, and a facility project at Kinston. The facility

project could include implementing a storm shelter for Kinston School.

The board's approval to move forward with the bid process allows architects to come up with specifications for each project for contractors to bid on each.

After advertising and opening of bids, the board will have an opportunity to approve or reject the bids on these projects.

Several personnel matters were approved by board members, these included:

- Grant leave for Annsley Renfro, teacher at Kinston [leave set to begin Feb. 1 and continue through March 22, tentatively];
- Employ Lori Hilburn, teacher at Zion Chapel, on a TEAMS Contract;
- Grant leave for Tim Bedsale, custodian at Kinston [leave set to begin Dec. 14 and continue through Jan. 16, tentatively];
- Grant leave for Amanda Chinn, CNP worker at New Brockton High School [leave Dec. 1 - Dec. 15, tentatively]; and
- Employ Shelby German as a Pre-K Auxiliary Aide for Zion Chapel School.

Board members approved their schedule of meetings for 2024.

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE!



The Elba High School Class of 1966 gathered for breakfast at The Outpost in New Brockton Tuesday, Dec. 12, and enjoyed a morning of good food, fun, and fellowship. Those present included (left to right): Jerry Brown, Judy Galimore Brown, Eddie Thompson, Terry Calhoun, Kenneth Baker, Jerome Blackmon, Jackey Tindol, Sara Warr Strong, David Blackmon, Bobby Edmondson, John Lawless, Jeanette Hutto, and Neal Hutto holding Gizzy.

Christmas in the Village set for Dec. 16th in Elba

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE will be held on Saturday, December 16, at Morrow Village, Jones Circle, Elba, AL. The event will begin at 1:00 P.M. and continue to 5:00 P.M.

This event is sponsored by the Elba Housing Authority, MsHumblePie,

and contributions from the Elba community.

MsHumblePie is a group of volunteers who collect funds and purchase new clothing for less fortunate

children. All their collected funds are spent in Elba for Elba children.

There will be fun, excitement and "Joy To The World" during this event.

Cookies With Santa!

Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023
10:00 a.m.

Cost: \$20.00 (\$5 for each additional child per family)

Includes: Picture with Santa, Two Cookies to Decorate, and a Bag of Baked Goodies to leave for Santa on Christmas Eve (or just to eat)!



Call to Pre-Register
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Enhancing the lineup of services offered by our team at BWBA, Brian brings experience in accounting, financial and tax planning, financial reporting, insurance regulatory and M&A, along with treasury, capital, investment, risk, and operations management. Brian is a graduate of Troy University and holds master's degrees from The College for Financial Planning (Financial Analysis) and Florida State University (Risk Management). Brian most recently wrapped up a long tenure with The National Security Group, Inc. in Elba where he served as chief financial and operations officer.

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